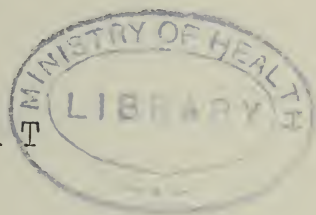


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BARROWFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR
THE YEAR
1953.



Robert E. Robinson,
Medical Officer of Health.

BARROWFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health: Robert E. Robinson, M.A.,
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Surveyor & Sanitary Inspector: F. Highfield, A.R.I.C.S.,
M.I.Mun.E., M.R.San.I.,
C.R.S.I.

Assistance is given by the Sanitary Staff of the
Public Health Department, Nelson, by arrangement
between the two authorities.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
21, CARR ROAD,
NELSON.

30th June, 1954.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Barrowford Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

1953 was not such a successful year as I would have liked. The Infantile Mortality Rate was 38 per 1,000 live births, 10 more than the figure for England and Wales. This high rate is what we must expect at times. But as this represents two deaths, the figure is not as alarming as it might appear at first.

A disturbing fact is the high suicide rate amongst the male population.

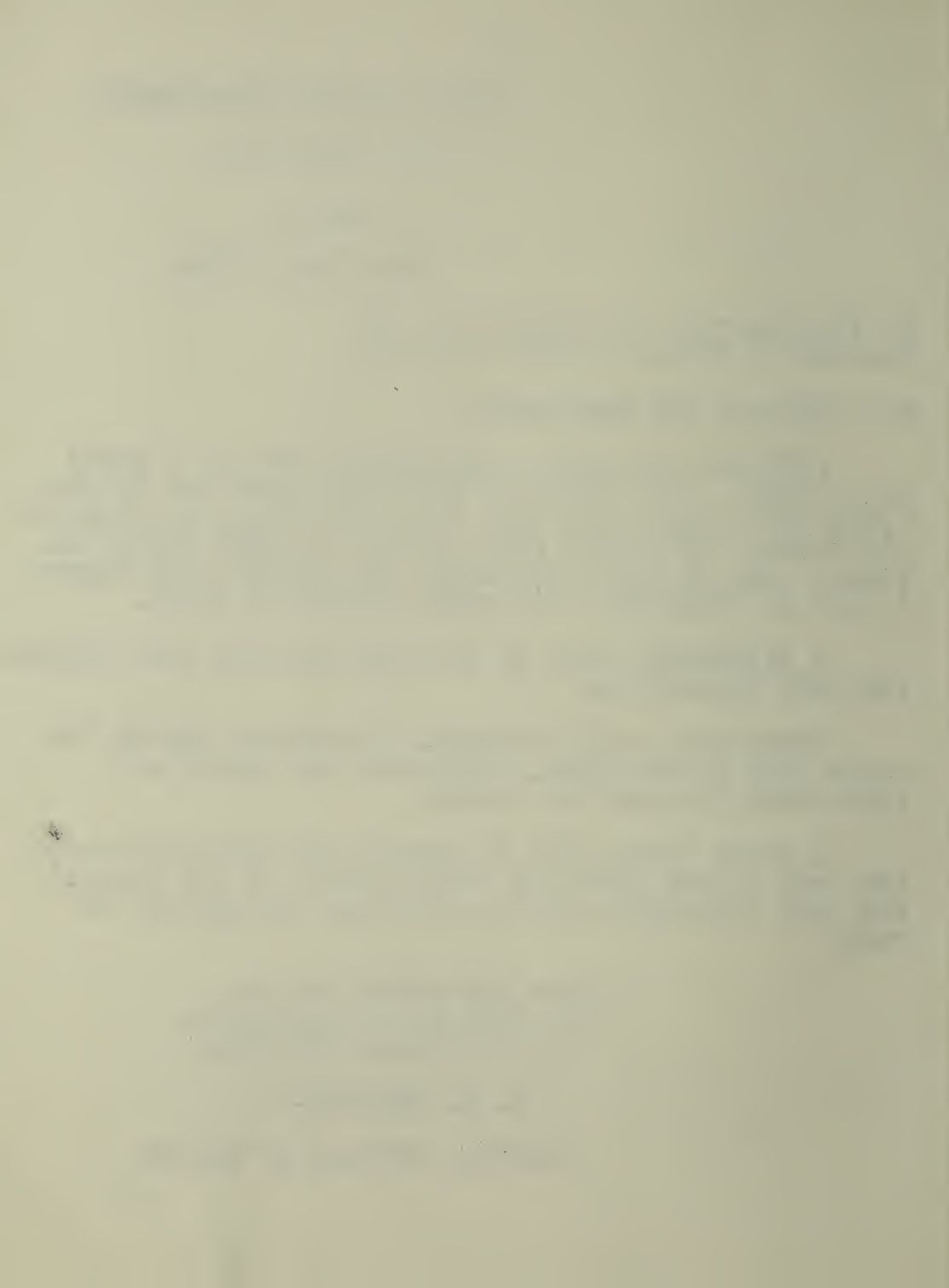
There was a mild epidemic of measles during the early part of the year, otherwise the amount of infectious disease was normal.

I would again like to express my appreciation of the help I have received from members of the Council and your officials on all occasions throughout the year.

I have the honour to be,
Mr. Chairman & Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

R. E. ROBINSON.

Medical Officer of Health.



Local Legislation (including bye-laws) in force in the district.

Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889.

Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890.

Public Health Amendment Act, 1890.

" " " " 1907.

" " " " "

- Pt. 2 Streets and Buildings
- Pt. 3 Sanitary Provisions
(Except Sect. 39, 40, 41, 42, 50 and 51).
- Pt. 4 Infectious Diseases
(Except Sect. 58 and 67).
- Pt. 6 Recreation Grounds.
- Pt. 10 Miscellaneous
(Except Sect. 94).

Byelaws.

- New Streets and Buildings - Adopted February, 1925.
- Nuisances - Adopted July, 1894.
- Slaughter Houses - Adopted July, 1894.
- Offensive Trades - Adopted July, 1894.
- Common Lodging Houses - Adopted July, 1894.
- Clean Food - Handling &c. - Adopted July, 1950.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area in acres	1387
Population - Preliminary Census, 1951	4765
Registrar General's Estimate of Home Population, mid 1953	4747

Note: This figure is a decrease of 8 on the figure supplied for mid 1952.

Number of inhabited houses at end of 1953 according to rate books	1912
Rateable Value	£30,662
Sum represented by a penny rate	£123

The chief industries of the district are cotton and silk weaving and the dyeing, printing and bleaching of textiles. Employment has been maintained at a high level during the year.

VITAL STATISTICS.

There was no unusual or excessive mortality noted during the year nor was there any significant alteration in occupation or environment which adversely affected the general health of the community.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Live Births - Legitimate	27	25	52
- Illegitimate	1	-	1
	<u>28</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>53</u>

Live Birth Rate per 1000 estimated home population:	
Crude	11.2
Adjusted	12.4
Comparability Factor	1.11

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Still Births - Legitimate	1	-	1
- Illegitimate	-	-	-

Still Birth Rate per 1000 total (Live and Still Births)	19
---	----

Still Birth Rate per 1000 estimated home population	0.21
---	------

Combined Live & Still Birth Rate per 1000 estimated home population	11.37
---	-------

Illegitimate Birth Rate per 1000 total (Live and Still) births	18.51
--	-------

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deaths	40	35	75
Death Rate per 1000 of estimated home population:			
	Crude		15.8
	Adjusted		12.8
	Comparability Factor		0.81

Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	Nil
--	-----

Maternal Mortality per 1000 total (Live and Still) Births	Nil
---	-----

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deaths of infants under one year of age			
Legitimate	2	-	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Infantile Mortality Rate per 1000 live births	38
---	----

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age			
Legitimate	1	-	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Neo-natal Mortality Rate per 1000 live births	19
Excess of deaths over births	22

BIRTHS

With the exception of the year 1950 the number of live births is the lowest since 1945. The Live Birth Rate of 11.2 being 0.8 per 1000 of population less than the previous year, 2.2 per 1000 less than the average for the previous 5 years, 4.3 per 1000 less than the Live Birth Rate for England and Wales and 3.3 per 1000 less than Nelson.

The adjusted Live Birth Rate is 12.4 per 1000 of population whilst that for Nelson is 15.4 so that allowing for the age and sex distribution of the population the difference is still 3.0 per 1000.

Only 8 or 15% of the registered live births actually took place in Barrowford.

STILL BIRTHS.

Only 1 Still Birth was registered as in the previous year but this gave a rate of 19 per 1000 total (live and still) births, an increase of 2 per 1000 on the previous year on account of the smaller number of births.

The rate per 1000 of population is rather less than England and Wales and sub-divisions of the country.

DEATHS.

The number of deaths registered was 7 less than the previous year, 7 less than the average number for the previous 5 years and was the smallest number registered since 1948.

The death rate was less by 1.4 per 1000 of population compared with 1952, was 1.9 per 1000 less than the previous 5 years average, but higher than the figure for England and Wales by 4.4 per 1000. The crude death rate of 15.8 per 1000 was comparable with Nelson's figure of 15.7, but an adjustment to allow for the sex and age distribution of the population the Barrowford is 12.8 per 1000 against Nelson's 13.8 per 1000.

Vascular lesions of the nervous system, and Coronary Disease, Angina, remain the principal causes of death, and in the age group the largest number of deaths were in the 65-70 years and 70-75 years each with 17.3% of the total. Only 34 or 45% of the deaths were of persons 70 years of age or over, against 47 or 57% the previous year. March was the month with the greatest number of deaths.

INFANTILE MORTALITY

As in the previous year there were two deaths of infants under the age of twelve months which gave an infantile mortality rate of 38 per 1000 live births compared with 35 per 1000 the previous year. One of these deaths was due to prematurity at the age of 30 minutes and the other was due to Bronchiolitis and Broncho-pneumonia aggravated by neglect at the age of 10 months.

The Infantile Mortality Rate is 17.9 per 1000 live births greater than the rate for England and Wales but only 4.9 per 1000 greater than the Nelson figure.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Once again there were no maternal deaths registered, this being the fifth successive year.

The following tables show:-

1. Various Barrowford Rates for the years 1948-1953 and the average of the 5 years 1948-1952.
2. Birth Rates, Death Rates and Analysis of Mortality for the year 1953 for England and Wales and sub-divisions of the country to which Barrowford and Nelson figures have been added for comparison.
3. Analysis of Deaths according to causes.
4. Summary of Ages at Death.
5. Monthly Analysis of Deaths showing Rates.
6. Maternal Mortality Rate for England and Wales and figures for Nelson and Barrowford for comparison.

Various Barrowford Rates for the years 1948-1953 and the average
of the 5 years 1948-1952.

Year	Live Births No. regis- tered	Rate per 1000 pop.	Deaths (all causes) No. regis- tered	Rate per 1000 pop.	Stillbirths No. regis- tered	Rate per 1000 total births	Maternal Mortality No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1000 total births	Infantile Mortality.			
									Total	Neo-natal		
1953	53	11.2	75	15.8	1	19	Nil	Nil	2	38	1	19
1952	57	12.0	82	17.2	1	17	Nil	Nil	2	35	1	18
1951	70	15.0	90	19.2	3	41	Nil	Nil	1	14	1	14
1950	47	10.2	86	18.7	1	21	Nil	Nil	3	64	1	21
1949	68	14.9	81	17.7	3	42	Nil	Nil	4	59		
1948	68	15.1	71	15.7	1	14	1	14.49	1	14		
Average 5 yrs 1948- 1952	62.0	13.4	82.0	17.7	1.8	2.7	0.2	2.89	2.2	37.2		

$$\times \text{Adjusted: Live Birth Rate (Comparability factor 1.11)} = 12.8$$

$$\text{Death Rate (Comparability factor 0.81)} = 12.4$$

Comparative Table showing Birth Rates, Death Rates and Analysis of Mortality for the year 1953.

	Eng. and Wales	160 County Boro's and Great Towns inc. London	160 smaller towns (res. pop. 25000 to 50000 at 1951 Census)	London Adm. County	Nelson	B'ford
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Rates per 1000 Home Population

Births:						
Live Births	15.5	17.0	15.7	17.5	14.5 ^E	11.2 ^D
Still "	0.35	0.43	0.34	0.38	0.28	0.21
	22.4(a)	24.8(a)	21.4(a)	21.0(a)	20.1(a)	18.8(a)
Deaths:						
All Causes	11.4	12.2	11.3	12.5	15.7 ^E	15.8 ^D
Typhoid & Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis	0.20	0.24	0.19	0.24	0.21	0.00
Influenza	0.16	0.15	0.17	0.15	0.06	0.21
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Acute polio-myelitis (inc. polio encephalitis)	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00
Pneumonia	0.55	0.59	0.52	0.64	0.27	0.21

Rates per 1000 Live Births

Deaths:						
All causes under 1 year	26.8(b)	30.8	24.3	24.8	32.8	37.7
Enteritis & diarrhoea under 2 yrs.	1.1	1.3	0.9	1.1	0.0	0.0

(a) Per 1000 Total (Live and Still) Births.

(b) Per 1000 Related Births.

Adjusted: Live Birth Rate 12.4 per 1000 (Comp. Fact. 1.11)
Death Rate 12.8 per 1000 (" " 0.81)

Columns 1-4: Figures supplied by Registrar General.

Adjusted: Live Birth Rate 15.4 per 1000 (Comp. Fact. 1.06)
Death Rate 13.8 per 1000 (" " 0.88)

Analysis of Deaths according to Causes.

Cause of Death	Number of Deaths			Death Rate per 1000 of population.
	M.	F.	Total	
Tuberculosis, respiratory	—	—	—	—
" other	—	—	—	—
Syphilitic diseases	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—	—	—
Acute polio-myelitis	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	3	4	0.84
" "lung, bronchus	2	—	2	0.42
" "Breast	—	—	—	—
" "uterus	—	1	1	0.21
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	1	3	4	0.80
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	—	—	—
Diabetes	—	1	1	0.21
Vascular lesions of nervous system	10	9	19	4.00
Coronary disease, angina	10	3	13	2.73
Hypertension with heart disease	—	1	1	0.21
Other heart disease	2	3	5	1.05
Other circulatory disease	1	—	1	0.21
Influenza	—	1	1	0.21
Pneumonia	1	—	1	0.21
Bronchitis	2	3	5	1.05
Other diseases of respiratory system	—	—	—	—
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	—	—	—	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	—	—	—
Nephritis & nephrosis	3	2	5	1.05
Hyperplasia of prostate	—	—	—	—

Cause of Death.	Number of Deaths			Death Rate per 1000 of population
	M.	F.	Total.	
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.	—	—	—	—
Congenital malformations	—	—	—	—
Other defined and ill defined diseases	2	3	5	1.05
Motor vehicle accidents	1	1	2	0.42
All other accidents	1	1	2	0.42
Suicide	3	—	3	0.63
Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—	—
All causes	40	35	75	15.79

Summary of Ages at Death.

Age Groups	Deaths in Barrowford		Outward Transfers		Inward Transfers		Total deaths allocated to Barrowford			% of each group to total deaths
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Total	
Over & under										
0 1 yr.	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	2	2.7
1 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 20	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1.3
20 25	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	1.3
25 30	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	1.3
30 35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
40 45	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	2	2	2.7
45 50	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	1	2	2.7
50 55	1	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	2	2.7
55 60	2	4	1	-	-	1	1	5	6	8.0
60 65	7	3	1	-	1	1	7	4	11	14.7
65 70	5	3	-	-	3	2	8	5	13	17.3
70 75	5	5	-	1	3	1	8	5	13	17.3
75 80	2	4	-	-	4	1	6	5	11	14.7
80 85	2	3	-	-	-	1	2	4	6	8.0
85 90	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	2	3	4.0
90 95	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	1.3
95 100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	25	26	2	1	17	10	40	35	75	100.0

Monthly Analysis of Deaths showing Rates.

Month	Actual deaths in B'ford	Outward transfers	Inward transfers	Nett deaths for Barrowford.	Number Rate per 1000 pop.
January	6	1	4	10	2.10
February	2	1	2	4	0.84
March	8	1	4	12	2.52
April	2	1	3	5	1.05
May	8	2	2	8	1.68
June	4	1	1	5	1.05
July	4	1	2	5	1.05
August	1	1	1	2	0.42
September	5	1	1	6	1.26
October	4	1	4	8	1.68
November	4	1	3	7	1.47
December	3	1	1	3	0.63
Totals	<u>51</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>15.79</u>

Maternal Mortality.

Cause	England & Wales No. of Deaths	Rates per 1000 Total (Live & Still) Births.	Nelson No. of Deaths	Rates per 1000 Total (Live & Still) Births.	Barrowford No. of Deaths.	Rates per 1000 Total (Live & Still) Births.
Sepsis of pregnancy, childbirth & the puerperium.	68	0.10	-	-	-	-
Abortion with toxæmia.	7	0.01	-	-	-	-
Other toxæmia of pregnancy and the puerperium.	166	0.24	1	2.01	-	-
Hæmorrhage of pregnancy and childbirth	90	0.13	-	-	-	-
Abortion without mention of sepsis or toxæmia	30	0.04	-	-	-	-
Abortion with sepsis	39	0.06	-	-	-	-
Other complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	125	0.18	-	-	-	-

Columns 1 & 2, Figures supplied by Registrar General.

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

Particulars of the Public Health Officers of the Authority are given on page 2 of the report.

Hospitals.

The Hospital Services for the area are provided by the Burnley and District Hospital Management Committee of the North-West Regional Hospital Board.

Venereal Diseases Clinics.

These are also provided by the Burnley and District Hospital Management Committee at the Victoria Hospital, Burnley, where separate clinics are held twice a week for both male and female patients.

Laboratory Facilities.

The services of the Central Pathological Laboratory, Salus Street, Burnley, are available for the use of your authority and samples of milk were submitted for examination during the year, the results of which are given in the appropriate section of the report.

In addition, to assist the general medical practitioners, specimens are received at the Public Health Department, Nelson, for transmission to the Burnley Laboratory, and during the year the following specimens were submitted on behalf of Barrowford patients:-

Faeces	3.
Throat swabs	2.
Urethral smears	1.
Urine	3.

Tuberculosis Service.

The Chest Clinic for the area is situated at Reedyford Hospital, Nelson.

Other Services.

The Lancashire County Council provide and maintain the following services which are administered from the Divisional Health Office, Reedley, Nr. Burnley.

Ambulance Service.

The area is served by ambulances from the Divisional Ambulance Station at Reedley and both ambulances and sitting-case cars are available.

Child Welfare Service.

The Infant Welfare Centre for Barrowford is held at the Congregational Sunday School, Hill Top.

Home Help Services.

The services of Home Helps are provided for cases as follows:-

1. Maternity - Domiciliary Confinement.
2. Maternity - Patient discharged from Maternity Home.
3. Acute sickness, particularly where the care of young children becomes necessary due to the incapacity of the mother.
4. Chronic sickness, including tuberculosis, and the aged sick.
5. Aged and infirm, including blind.

This service now includes a scheme of night and evening help, which is particularly valuable in assisting chronic sick patients awaiting admission to hospital.

Applications are dealt with through the Divisional Health Office and the service is under the control and supervision of a full-time organiser and welfare worker.

Home Nursing Service.

There are two district nurses of the Divisional Staff assigned to Barrowford, one full-time and the other part-time along with the Blacko area.

Mental-Health Service.

The duties of the County Council under Section 51 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, are delegated to the Divisional Health Committee and the work is carried out by the Duly Authorised Officer and the Mental Health Worker.

Midwifery Service.

One nurse-midwife of the Divisional Staff is assigned the Barrowford and Blacko area.

Clinics.

Ante-natal, dental, minor ailments, orthopaedic and ophthalmic clinics are provided outside your area and are available for Barrowford residents.

Further information relative to these services may be obtained from my report as Divisional Medical Officer.

National Assistance Act, 1949 - Section 47.

It has not been found necessary to take any action under this section during the year.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

Authority from which supply is obtained: Nelson Corporation.

Source of supply: Moorland gathering grounds.

New sources of supply during year: None.

Supplies to houses:

(a) Direct from public mains -	
No. of dwelling-houses	1870
Estimated population	4625
By means of standpipes	Nil
(b) From private supplies (wells, springs, &c.)	
No. of dwelling-houses	24
Estimated population	60

All the latter are on the outskirts of the district where there is no access to public mains.

The water supply of the area has been satisfactory in both quality and quantity. Samples for chemical and bacteriological examination being taken regularly by Nelson Corporation.

Extensions to the water mains have been carried out on the Higher Causeway Estate, and were still proceeding at the end of the year.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Sewage Disposal Works and - Automatic screening plant
Methods of Treatment primary and secondary tanks,
percolating filters, and
humus tanks.

No new works of sewerage and sewage disposal have been undertaken during the year.

There are several houses and farms on the outskirts, without drainage due to the distance involved from the main sewers.

Closet Accommodation at end of 1953.

Privy middens:

No. of middens	Nil
No. of closets attached to these middens	Nil
No. of pail closets	22
No. of dry ashpits (excluding middens)	Nil
No. of movable ashbins	1963
No. of trough closets	Nil
No. of waste water closets	738
No. of fresh water closets	740
No. of houses on water carriage system	1896

Conversions during 1953:

No. of waste water closets to fresh water closets	20
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Public Cleansing.

This is carried out by direct labour under the control and supervision of your Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.

Household and trade refuse is collected weekly and disposed of by means of controlled tipping.

Cesspools are emptied monthly and pail closets twice monthly.

Sanitary Inspections during 1953.

No. of premises in general visited or inspected	156
No. of defects or nuisances discovered	195
No. of defects or nuisances abated	173
No. of notices served - Informal	156
- Statutory	1
No. of legal proceedings	Nil

Shops and Offices.

Under the Shops Act, 1950, 87 inspections of shops were made during the year and conditions were found to be satisfactory.

Under the Public Health Act, 1936, 6 inspections of offices were carried out and conditions found to be satisfactory.

Camping Sites.

Three licences for individual caravans were issued by the local authority under Section 269 - Public Health Act, 1936, but no licences were issued for camping sites.

It is estimated that the maximum number of campers resident in the area at any one time during the 1953 summer season was 6.

Atmospheric Pollution.

There are 8 factory or works chimneys within the district and 8 observations of these were taken during the year. The time limit allowed for the emission of black smoke is 10 minutes per hour and if this is exceeded informal notices are served on the occupiers.

Your Authority is represented on the Nelson and District Smoke Abatement Advisory Committee which also includes representatives from local industry.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

There are no public baths or pools nor any privately-owned baths or pools open to the public in Barrowford, but public baths and an open air swimming pool in the Borough of Nelson provide facilities which are available to, and used by, Barrowford residents.

Disinfestation.

No houses owned by the Local Authority were found to require disinfestation but one other house was disinfested, by treatment with D.D.T. spray.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

In addition to sewer and surface treatments, the following work has also been carried out by the local authority during the year.

No. of properties inspected under the Act	159
No. of properties treated	9
No. of minor infestations	8
No. of major infestations	1

Schools.

Number of schools in the district	2
Sanitary Conditions of schools:-	
(a) No. with unsatisfactory yard surfaces	Nil
(b) Sanitary accommodation - No. of schools with:-	
(1) Fresh water closets	2
(2) Waste water closets	Nil
(3) Trough closets only	Nil
(4) Pail closets only	Nil
(5) Privy closets only	Nil
(c) Refuse disposal - No. of schools with:-	
(1) Dustbins	2
(2) Dry ashpits	-

(d) Water supply - No. of schools supplied from:-	
(1) Public mains	2
(2) Private supplies	-
(e) No. of schools where facilities are considered unsatisfactory for:-	
(1) Washing	1
(2) Drinking	1
(f) Drainage - No. of schools with drainage to:-	
(1) Public sewers	2
(2) Private treatment works	-

Offensive Trades.

There are no offensive trades carried on within the area.

Factories Act, 1937.

Part I.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health. Premises	No. on Register.	Inspections.	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted.
(1) Factories in which Sect. 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority.	1	-	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sect. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	32	29	-	-
(3) Other premises in which Sect. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	-	-	-	-
Total	33	29	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars defects were found.					
Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred:		No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
			To H.M. Inspector.	From H.M. Inspector	
-	-	-	-	-	-

Part VIII

Outwork.

(Sections 110 and 111)

No notifications of outworkers have been received during the year.

Other Premises.

There are no Common Lodging Houses, Houses let in lodgings, or Underground Sleeping Rooms within the area.

No inspections are made of canal boats.

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

Number of registered premises at end of year on which rag flock or other filling materials were used in manufacture of bedding, toys, etc.	1
Number of licensed premises at end of year on which rag flock was	
(a) Manufactured, or manufactured and stored	Nil
(b) Stored only	Nil
Number of inspections during the year	2
Number of samples taken	Nil

Chief Sanitary Requirements of the District.

The conversion of the 738 waste water closets to the fresh water system.

Installation of new water service pipes to several groups of houses with a poor supply due to the inadequacy of old joint service pipes.

During the year one row of property has been supplied with a new water main and the four houses involved supplied with separate service pipes.

HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year:

1. By Local Authority 16 traditional permanent Houses
2. By other Local Authorities Nil
3. By other bodies or persons 3 traditional permanent houses.

Inspections of dwelling-houses during the year:

1. No. of houses inspected for housing defects 156
2. No. of inspections made for the purpose 395
3. No. of houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 156

Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices

1. No. of houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority 141

Action under Statutory Powers:

1. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 Nil
2. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:
 - (a) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 1
 - (b) No. of houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices -
 - By owners Nil
 - By local authority in default of owners Nil
3. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 Nil
4. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 Nil

Housing Act, 1936 - Part VI - Overcrowding.

1. No. of dwelling-houses overcrowded at end of year. Not known.
2. No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year. Nil
3. No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year Nil

Housing Act, 1949 - Part II - Improvement Grants, etc.

Number of schemes submitted	Nil
(a) By private individuals	Nil
(b) By the Local Authority	Nil

Housing Conditions.

There still exists a shortage of houses as indicated by the Council's housing waiting list which at the end of the year showed that there were no less than 88 families requiring Council houses of the two and three bedroom type. At the end of the year there were 14 houses in the course of erection and a further 10 contemplated.

There are quite a number of houses in the area which are not up to modern standard and this includes the back-to-back houses which number approximately 350. With the exception of these latter houses all have a separate water closet or other adequate sanitary accommodation.

Amongst the older property there are still some houses where the water supply is not fully adequate due to houses being served by a common $\frac{1}{2}$ " service pipe, but all houses in the built up area are provided with an internal water supply.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

The following action has been taken during the year with regard to the administration of the Milk and Dairies Acts and Regulations.

The Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 -

Number of registered distributors operating from:-

(a) Dairies in the district	1
(b) Dairy farms in the district	24
(c) Shops in the district other than dairies	7
(d) Premises outside the district	4

The Milk (Special Designation)(Raw Milk) Regulations,
1949 -

Number of dealers' licences (including supplementary
licences) issued by the local authority during 1953
in respect of:

- | | |
|------------------------------|----|
| (a) "Tuberculin Tested" Milk | 4 |
| (b) "Accredited" Milk | -- |

The Milk (Special Designation)(Pasteurised and
Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949 -

Number of licences issued in respect of "heat treated"
milk

- | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----|------------------------|-----|
| (1) Pasteurising plants | Nil | (2) Sterilising plants | Nil |
| (3) Retail distributors | | | |
| (a) "Pasteurised" | 4 | | |
| (b) "Sterilised" | 7 | | |

No refusal or revocation of a licence for graded
milk has been found necessary.

No structural alterations or improvements have
been carried out to dairies during the year.

Informal samples of milk are taken by the staff
of the Public Health Department, Nelson, and during the
year the following samples were taken:

(a) Raw Milk -

	Samples taken	Result
(i) Tuberculosis - biological tests:	33	Negative 33 Positive Nil
(ii) Methylene Blue reduction test:	36	Satisfactory 30 (for keeping quality) Unsatisfactory 6

Meat and Other Foods.

There is no licensed slaughter-house within the
area and with the exception of the incidental
slaughtering of cottagers' pigs, all slaughtering for
the area continues to take place at the Colne Abattoirs.
Licences for the slaughtering of cottagers' pigs are
granted through the Ministry of Food but during the year
no notifications of intention to slaughter were received.

A general inspection is carried out of shops and other premises where food is prepared.

Food Poisoning.

No cases of food poisoning or suspected cases were reported during the year.

Food and Drugs Acts, 1938-50.

This act is administered by the Lancashire County Council and samples for analysis are taken in the district by an officer of that authority.

The following information relative to the samples taken in Barrowford during 1953, has been kindly supplied to me by Dr. S. C. Gawne, the County Medical Officer of Health.

A total of 25 samples was obtained, of these 19 were of milk and the 6 others comprised:-

1 Beef sausage	1 Golden Raising Powder
1 Cod Liver Oil	1 Cooking Fat
1 Zinc Ointment	1 Rice

All the samples were reported by the County Analyst to be genuine with the exception of the following:-

Sample	Result of Analysis	Action taken
1 Zinc Ointment	Content 18% Zinc Oxide, i.e. 2.5% above maximum B.P. limit.	Packers communicated with.

Clean Food Campaign.

No special action has been taken by the Council during the year, but byelaws for the handling, etc. of food were adopted by your Council in 1950, and general inspection of food premises is carried out.

Ice Cream.

At the end of the year 15 premises were registered under the Lancashire County Council (Rivers Board and General Powers) Act, 1938. 6 of these for the manufacture and sale of ice-cream and 9 for the sale only of ice-cream. These premises have been regularly inspected during the year.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year 60 cases of infectious diseases were notified, particulars of which are shown in the following table.

Notifiable Disease.	Total cases of all ages	Total cases notified Age period - years									Total Deaths
		0-1	1-3	3-5	5-10	10-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	Age and not over known	
Scarlet Fever	10	-	-	1	8	1	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	44	2	61	7	18	1	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infect.	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Acute poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
paralytic	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Erysipelas	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Totals	60	2	71	8	26	3	-	2	2	-	-

The arrangement has been maintained whereby the enquiries into, and the follow up of, cases of infectious disease is carried out by the staff of the Public Health Department, Nelson, under my direction, and during the year 12 visits were paid for this purpose.

Six cases were moved to isolation hospital during 1953, and these were 4 cases of scarlet fever, 1 case of acute poliomyelitis (paralytic) and 1 case of meningococcal infection.

Of the 44 cases of measles, 36 were notified during the first quarter of the year and the remainder, 8, were spread out during the next three months.

The case of meningococcal infection occurred in February and the acute poliomyelitis (paralytic) in November.

The following table shows the case rates for certain infectious diseases for the whole of the country and sub-divisions thereof, and the Nelson and Barrowford figures have been added for comparison.

Eng. and Wales	160 County Boro's and Great Towns inc. London	160 Towns pop. 25000 to 50000 1931 Census	London Adm. County	Nelson	B'ford
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NOTIFICATIONS:

(Corrected)

Rates per 1000 Home Population

Typhoid Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00
Meningococcal infection	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.21
Scarlet Fever	1.39	1.50	1.44	1.02	1.93	2.10
Whooping Cough	3.58	3.72	3.38	3.30	4.29	0.21
Diphtheria	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
Erysipelas	0.14	0.14	0.13	0.12	0.17	0.21
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles	12.36	11.27	12.32	8.09	17.18	9.26
Pneumonia	0.84	0.92	0.76	0.73	0.77	0.42
Acute polio- myelitis incl. polio ence- phalitis -						
Paralytic	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.07	0.08	0.21
Non-paralytic	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.02	0.00
Food Pois'g	0.24	0.25	0.24	0.38	0.32	0.00
Puerperal						
Pyrexia *	18.23	24.33	12.46	28.61	0.00	0.00

Columns 1-4: Figures supplied by Registrar General.

* Rates per 1000 Total (Live & Still) Births.

Tuberculosis.

Four new cases of tuberculosis, 2 respiratory, and two non-respiratory were notified during 1953. There were no deaths registered from this disease.

At the end of the year there were 31 cases on the register, 23 respiratory (12 males and 11 females) and 8 non-respiratory cases (2 males and 6 females).

No action has been found to be necessary during the year under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under the Public Health Act, 1936, Section 172.

Disinfection after Infectious Diseases.

The arrangement between your authority and the Borough of Nelson, whereby this work is carried out by the staff of the Public Health Department, Nelson, continues to operate and during the year 14 houses, 155 articles of bedding, 16 articles of clothing, and 30 miscellaneous articles have been disinfected.

Formalin spray and vapour is used for the premises, and infected articles of bedding and clothing are subjected to steam disinfection, the apparatus used being situate at the Destructor Works, Charles Street, Nelson, and owned by Nelson Corporation.

